Sisters in Arms

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This is a call for strength between my sisters
The womxn whose words have been left unheard

Hear _us_
See _us_
The struggle is your own but it is not singular
The struggle is connected through _us_

_Our_ brains develop one and the same, regardless of what our biology says
_Our_ sisterhood is not defined by what is between where _we_ walk
_Our_ sisterhood is defined by what _we_ create
_Our_ community, _our_ safety, is defined by the walls _we_ choose to build
And the ones _we_ chose to break down

As sisters, _we_ must recognize each other
Empower each other
When _our_ sisters are hurt _we_ must hurt too
Your name is _our_ name
Your truth is _our_ truth
Your struggle is _our_ struggle
For _we_ are sisters in arms

The words of the people who decide
That the shoes we wear are stepped on
Not because of _our_ potential
But because of the womxn who wear them
_We_ will not lose stride
When we stand together
When we hold hands
_We_ become unstoppable
For _we_ are sisters in arms

When _we_ bring awareness to _our_ underrepresentation
And the disproportionate lack of success
And the misrepresentation of _our_ bodies
And the constant struggle not to compete
And the barriers put in front of _us_ by those who call _us_ other
_We_ become dangerous
For _we_ are sisters in arms

It’s time _we_ break their perception mirrors
Although _we_ have different chapters with various stories, _we_ are within a book of
commonality, oppression, and underrepresentation

United _we_ stand
As sisters _we_ are
For _we_ are the sisters in arms

**Author Notes**

*Liliana Delgado* is a second-year undergraduate student at Iowa State University with a
major in mathematics and minor in physics. A lot of her activism is tied to the inclusion
and equity of womxn of color in the STEM fields.

*Morgan Godwin* is a senior in elementary education with endorsements in reading,
mathematics, and coaching.

*Kathryn Post* is a culinary food science major at Iowa State University. This poem
brought forth a lot of feelings she has had and found the process of creating it incredibly
rewarding. She has plans to continue into the culinary world and to make it much more
diverse and welcoming.

*Wendell Lee, Jr.* is from Oneonta, NY. At the time of publication, he was a graduating
senior with a Bachelor’s of Arts in political science.

*Tatiana Tankhai* is a sophomore majoring in political science at Iowa State University.